

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

### February, 2002

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fifth Plymouth Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.*

### **Residents of Fifth Plymouth Representative District**

#### **Treatment Admissions:**

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.3% (416) reside in the Fifth Plymouth Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (79) of Fifth Plymouth Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 70% of admissions from the Fifth Plymouth Representative District were male and 30% were female.
- Over 58.4% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 89.4% of admissions were white non-Latino, 1.9% were black non-Latino, 2.8% were Latino, 1.2% were Asians, and 4.5% were other racial categories.
- 58.6% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 19.4% were married, and 14.4% reported not to be married now.
- 18.2% of admissions had less than high school education, 55.3% completed high school, and 26.4% had more than high school education.
- 39.9% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 8.8% of those admitted were homeless.
- 9.1% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Substances Used in Past Year:**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Fifth Plymouth Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 1</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used</b> <b>FY 1995 – FY 2001</b>							
<b>Fifth Plymouth Representative District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	223	200	52	52	22	17	22
<b>FY '96</b>	227	191	66	56	22	54	41
<b>FY '97</b>	287	254	63	62	29	46	34
<b>FY '98</b>	344	306	95	89	48	66	59
<b>FY '99</b>	317	282	95	83	41	57	48
<b>FY '00</b>	363	312	104	100	51	77	58
<b>FY '01</b>	416	331	118	109	57	103	62

- Since FY 1995, residents of Fifth Plymouth Representative District reported a steady increase across all the drug categories.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use increased by more than five-fold, and, alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, and crack use increased by 65%, 126%, 109%, and 159%, respectively.

**Primary Substance of Use:**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fifth Plymouth Representative District.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	54.8%	20.6%	8.1%	5.2%	1.9%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While heroin and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine was higher within your District.